

REMARKS

The specification has been amended. Claims 2, 14, 18, 21, 38, 40, 48, and 50 have been amended. Claims 1, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, 39, and 49 have been canceled. Claim 60 is allowed. Claims 2-12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24-38, 40-48, and 50-60 remain in the application.

Objection is made to the specification. The amendment to the specification removes the grounds for this objection.

Claims 1, 13, 18-22, 24, 30, and 33 are rejected for anticipation by US Patent 4,719,624. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1, 13, 16, 19, and 23 and in view of the amendment of claim 21.

Claims 14, 15, and 26-28 are rejected for obviousness over the '624 patent in view of US Patent 5,661,763. The rejection is moot in view of the amendments of claims 14 and 21.

Claims 38 and 48 are rejected for obviousness over the '624 patent in view of US Patent 5,757,416. The rejection is moot in view of the amendments of claim 38 and 48.

According to the Office Action Summary, claims 2-12, 16, 23, 25, 29, 31, 32, 34-37, 39-47, and 49-59 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of canceled claim 1. Claim 2 is therefore allowable as are claims 3-12 which depend from claim 2.

Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of canceled claims 13 and 16. Claim 14 therefore corresponds to claim 16 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 14 is allowable as are claims 15, 17, and 18 which depend from claim 14.

Claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of canceled claims 19, 20, and 23. Claim 21 therefore corresponds to claim 23 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 21 is allowable as are claims 22 and 24-37 which depend from claim 21.

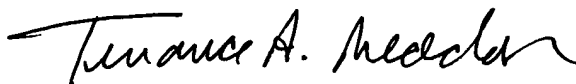
Claim 38 has been amended by incorporating the limitations of canceled claim 39. Claim 38 therefore corresponds to claim 39 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 38 is allowable as are claims 40-47 which depend from claim 38.

Claim 48 has been amended by incorporating the limitations of canceled claim 49. Claim 48 therefore corresponds to claim 49 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 48 is allowable as are claims 50-59 which depend from claim 48.

Claim 60 has been allowed.

Accordingly, in view of these amendments, all of the claims remaining in this application are either allowable or allowed. Thus the application is in condition for allowance, early notice of which is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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